



**Noosa News**  
**Thursday 9/04/2009**  
Page: 36  
Section: General News  
Region: Noosa QLD, AU  
Circulation: 22237  
Type: Regional  
Size: 182.06 sq.cms.



press clip

# Young gun with loads of style

Chris Clout can't keep the smile off his 25-year-old face.

The Noosa designer was the star of the Building Designers Association of Australia (BDAA) National Design Awards held last Saturday night when he won the overall 2009 National Design Excellence Award, the Best New Home 351-450sq m, and Best New Home 251-350sq m.

Chris found himself up against some of the country's oldest and most experienced designers and, even though he has been licensed for just over a year, he beat them all for the top gong. Already winner of four Queensland awards, this was a thrilling way to top off Chris' first year in business on his own.

"I'm stoked," he said. "This was my first year in the Building Design Association and to win this top level is great. Most (designers) are aged 50+ and have been running their businesses all their lives. To win as a 25-year-old is a pretty big achievement. That was my goal. Now I have to set another goal: to be the world's best designer."



**Chris Clout proudly displays his design excellence award.**

*PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED*

The National Building Design awards presentation dinner is the pinnacle of the Building Designers Association national conference, and this year was held in Perth, Western Australia.

Sixty-eight state finalists competed for national recognition in 17 building design categories after which all category winners were eligible for the Design Excellence Award for the best building design of 2009.

The Residential Building 251-350sq m category award went to Chris Clout for Kestrel House, described by the BDAA judging panel as a "spectacular beachside residence that takes full advantage of its breathtaking location."

Chris also took out the award for best Residential building 351-450sq m with his Japan House at Castaways Beach, described on the night as "a combination of contemporary Queensland living and a modern take on Japanese design...".

"I have created an indoor/outdoor feeling with the garden. I wanted my own style, that's why I went for the modern touch with Japanese influence. Now I'm looking to create a futuristic style."

Both homes had previously won the Queensland regional and state awards in 2008.

With projects on the go in Bali, Fiji, Brisbane, Noosa, Airlie Beach, Mackay and the Gold Coast, it shouldn't be long until Chris achieves his goal of being the world's best designer. See Chris Clout's designs on [www.chriscloutdesign.com.au](http://www.chriscloutdesign.com.au).